TWBRIGHTON CONNECTION

City of Brighton, Colorado

January - February 2016

www.brightonco.gov

A new Brighton Connection

The City of Brighton's Public Information & Community Resources department is pleased to provide Brighton residents with a brand new look to The Brighton Connection community newsletter! Beginning with this edition, The Brighton Connection will be sent directly to homes and provide eight pages of news, events, and calendar happenings.





In the Nov. 3 election, voters elected incumbent Kirby Wallin (Ward 1), incumbent Lynn Baca (Ward 3), incumbent J.W. Edwards (Ward 4) and Mary Ellen Pollack (Ward 2) to City Council. Pollack replaces Councilwoman Cynthia Martinez who was term-limited. All terms are four years. The council members will be sworn in at the Jan. 5 City Council meeting which will be held at the Armory Performing Arts Center beginning at 7 p.m.

The City of Brighton would like to thank the Brighton community for voting in favor of ballot issues 1A, 2k, 2L and 3C.

NEW UTILITY RATES IN EFFECT JAN. 1

On Dec. 1, Brighton City Council approved rate changes for water and sewer services. The new rates, which go into effect with utility bills issued after Jan. 1, include changes to both fixed

rates and volumetric usage rates for water and sewer as well as an increase to the storm water drainage fee.

For fixed rates, residential consumers will now pay \$15 per month for water, up \$1, and \$10.95 per month for sewer, up \$1.40. The fixed storm drainage fee will be \$4 per month.

For volumetric rates on water, a tiered system will be still be in effect. The water rate will increase to \$2.80 per 1,000 gallons of water, up 5 percent, for the first 3,000 gallons of usage. Rates for higher volumetric usage will increase by

8 percent. Wastewater volumetric fees will increase from \$4.40 to \$4.58 per 1,000 gallons of sewer, a 4 percent increase.

Residential consumers can now expect to pay a total utility bill (water, sewer, and storm water) of \$56.69 per month if they use 3,000 gallons of water and \$143.57 per month for 18,000 gallons of water.

Most commercial users can anticipate similar increases to their water and sewer fixed and volumetric rates. Commercial outdoor use for irrigation will see a slightly smaller increase in the

water volumetric rate at 6.5 percent. Additionally, the Water System Connection Fees for new users and future development are increasing by 5 percent.

"The approved rates for 2016 are consistent with rate projections made in 2014. Rate increases are an unfortunate cost of doing business; commodity and materials prices are increasing, and our infrastructure is aging. We need to address water, wastewater, and storm water system design and operation concerns, while maintaining safe and prudent financial reserves consistent with industry best practices" said the City of Brighton's Director of Utilities Curtis Bauers.

In addition to working to restore the reserves to fiscally prudent levels, the City is also

anticipating the need to address the following capital projects over the next several years: Storage Tank Repairs \$1.7 million (water); RO Treatment Plant Improvements \$9.8 million (water); Water Line Replacement \$5.4 million (water); Sewer Line Replacement \$6.0 million (wastewater); Storm Water Outfall \$2.2 million (storm); And other Storm Water Projects \$2.3 million (storm).

To see a full listing the utility rates in 2016, please visit www.brightonco.gov/WaterRates. For questions, please call 303-655-2009.

'Tis the season to recycle Christmas trees

The City of Brighton will offer Christmas tree recycling Dec. 26 – Jan. 10. Residents will have the opportunity to recycle Christmas trees at the following locations:

- Brighton Park south parking lot (9th and Midland)
- Brighton Sports Complex (1111 Judicial Center Drive)
- Ken Mitchell Park (889 Kinglet Court)

Residents will also have the option to recycle Christmas trees using curbside pickup Monday, Jan. 11. Trees must be placed on the curb by 7 a.m. to be picked up. Please call 303-655-2054 to schedule a pickup time.

Please remove everything from trees before recycling. Yard waste, tree limbs, and wreathes will be not be allowed. Only Christmas trees will be accepted.

Trees will be chipped and mulch will be available Jan. 15 on a first-come-first-serve basis at the Brighton Park south parking lot off Midland Street.

For more information, contact the City of Brighton Parks and Recreation Department at 303-655-2054. This program is sponsored by Ironwood Earthcare, "Setting the Standard in Tree Care," 303-366-3020.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE DISTRICT PLAN?



Adams County and the City of Brighton are working together to create a plan for the south sub area of Brighton (approximately 5,000 acres) that investigates the feasibility of preserving farmland, making recommendations on preservation of lands that remain valuable for food production, incorporates related uses to enhance the economic vitality of these small farms and attract visitors to Brighton.

GET INVOLVED!

Next Neighborhood Meeting 6-8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 1 Eagle View Adult Center 1150 Prairie Center Parkway Brighton, CO 80601

Adams County and the City of Brighton are gathering input from property owners, residents, business owners, and other stakeholders throughout the planning process. Join our neighborhood meetings to ask questions, get project updates and offer your insights.

Visit www.districtplan.org for more information.



In 2016, the City of Brighton Office of Youth Services will offer the "Our Community Growing Grads" program. The program will offer college information tables, people to assist with federal student aid (FAFSA) form filing, local scholarship information, and free food! Partners of the new program will include Front Range Community College, Anythink Library, and School District 27J.

Scheduled dates include:

6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 21 Anythink Library, 327 E Bridge St., Brighton

6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 18 Eagle Ridge Academy, 3551 Southern St., Brighton

6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 25 Front Range Community College, 1850 Egbert St., Brighton

TBD dates at Brighton High School and Prairie View High School.

To learn more about FAFSA, visit https://fafsa.ed.gov/. For questions about the Our Community Growing Grads program, please contact City of Brighton Community Resources Liaison, Melinda Weatherholdt at 303-655-2119.

School zone reminders from the Brighton Police Department

With the volume of children now attending School District 27J schools, the Brighton Police Department is receiving an increase of concerns referencing traffic. As a result of the increased concern, Brighton Police ask that when you are dropping off or picking up your students, that you maintain patience and show common courtesy to other drivers and surrounding homeowners. Below are a few of the infractions that are being observed every day and you can be cited for:

- Don't block private drives Brighton city ordinance states that you shall not stop or park within five feet of a public or private driveway.
- Slow down watch for children walking between parked cars.
- Don't park in no parking zones; loading only zones or designated bus zones.
- Don't park in crosswalks Brighton city ordinance states that you shall not park within 20 feet of a crosswalk.

Thank you for helping keep our schools and community members safe!

Thank you for trotting!

Thank you to the 900 runners registered and the more than 700 runners that braved the chilly November day to participate in the 31st Annual Turkey Trot!

The 31st Annual Turkey Trot was sponsored by: McDonalds, Blackjack Pizza, Santiago's, Brighton & Reunion Orthodontics, Advanced



Urgent Care, Crossfit Salvo, Kineta Care Kaiser Permanente, Platte Valley Medical Center, United Power, Inc., Redeemer Bible Church, Cold Stone Creamery, Valley Bank & Trust, Macaroni Kid, Billie's Café, Wells Fargo, Starbucks, Anthony's Pizza & Pasta, O'Neil Flat Rolled Metals, 3 Margaritas and Papa Murphy's.

Office of Youth Services hosting two-day Image Summit

The City of Brighton's Office of Youth Services will host its second Image Summit, but this year making it a two-day event. The Summit will be March 31- April 1 at the Armory Performing Arts Center. The event will be statewide and open to youth ages 10-19.



The event will build leadership and confidence in its attendees so they can use their voices to impact their communities and policy governance. The keynote speaker will be Josh Shipp, teen expert and youth speaker featured on CNN. Other speakers will include the return of Adrian Molina and Denver Councilmen Paul Lopez.

There will also be an aerialist, contortionist, slam poetry artist, and juggling for entertainment. The event is sponsored by 9News and Brighton Lodging Tax Grants Commission.

The cost to attend is \$15. For more information, visit the City of Brighton Youth Services webpage at www.brightonco.gov/313/Youth-Services.

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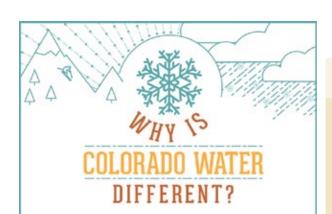




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There's a special ingredient in Colorado water-SNOW. In fact, up to 90% of the West's water starts as snowfall. It fluffs our skis, rocks our rafts, and fuels our life.

Though seemingly abundant, the reality is, there's a finite amount of fresh water. So if you love Colorado-and who doesn't-learn how you can protect this very precious resource.





CITY CALENDAR Dates are subject to change.

January

- City offices, Eagle View Adult Center and Brighton Recreation Center closed
- 5 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m., Armory Performing Arts Center
- City Council Study Session, 6 p.m., City Hall 12
- Historic Preservation Commission meeting, 6 p.m., Historic City Hall 14
- City Council Meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall 19
- City Council Study Session, 6 p.m., City Hall

February

- City Council Meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall
- City Council Study Session, 6 p.m., City Hall
- State of the City address, 7:30 a.m., Armory Performing Arts Center Historic Preservation Commission meeting, 6 p.m., Historic City Hall
- City Council Meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall 16
- 23 City Council Study Session, 6 p.m., City Hall

AT THE BRIGHTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

YOU HAVE OPTIONS

WHEN REPORTING A SEXUAL ASSAULT

REPORT IN THE **WAY THAT IS** RIGHT FOR ENFORCEMENT.

Learn more about the reporting options offered to people who experience unwanted sexual experiences by visiting www.ReportingOptions.org.





Brighton Police Department

303-655-2301 3401 E. Bromley Lane Brighton, CO 80601

Brighton/Commerce City seeking volunteer victim advocates

The Brighton and Commerce City Police Department Victim Services Unit is currently accepting applications for volunteer victim advocates. Visit www.brightonco.gov/348/Become-a-Volunteer to apply. Applications are due by Feb. 15.

Volunteer advocates provide on-scene contact with victims and witnesses of violent crime, sudden death, and other emergency situations. They provide immediate crisis intervention, individual and family support, provide information about the criminal justice system, ensuring Victim Rights are upheld and immediate needs of victims are

Each volunteer is required to respond in both Brighton and Commerce City, volunteer a minimum of four 12-hour shifts per month, including evenings, weekends and occasional holidays. Attend one monthly in-service meeting. Volunteers are required to respond within 30 minutes of dispatch contact.

In order to participate, volunteers must:

- Be at least 21 years of age
- Be able to undergo and pass a background investigation
- Be a holder of a valid Colorado driver's license with a good record
- Complete 40 hours of Victim Services training
- Be compassionate and non-judgmental with victims of crime
- Be able to maintain confidentiality
- Have strong interpersonal skills
- Have self-motivation
- Be able to perform under emotional and adverse conditions
- Be able to respond to a variety of different locations
- Be willing to commit to at least 12 months

For information on how to become a victim advocate volunteer, contact Kim Messina at 303-655-2308 or kmessina@brightonco.gov.

Brighton CERT completes another year of disaster training

The Brighton Community Emergency Response Team, better known as CERT, hosted a full-scale disaster simulation exercise on Nov. 7 at Vestas Training Facility to test the disaster response skills of the 2015 graduating CERT class.

CERT is a FEMA-supported program

which trains volunteers to provide support to communities before, during, and after disasters. CERT volunteers help others in their community following disasters or emergencies when professional responders are not immediately available to help, and also provide support to first responders during planned events and in operational tasks. The CERT program educates participants about how to be prepared for hazards and emergencies which could impact families and communities within the City of Brighton. During the 32 hours course, students learn basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and the incident command system (ICS), and disaster medical operations, and disaster phycology,

This CERT disaster simulation combined graduating students from the City of



Thornton and the City of Brighton to work together testing their new skills in a mock tornado simulation. The mock disaster also included more than 30 victim actors with make-up used to portray life-like injuries including blood, severe bruises, torn clothing and broken bones which could have been caused by a tornado. The CERT students had to put their skills to the test by setting up an Incident Command, Medical Triage and treatment, and navigated through debris and hazards to rescue victim actors from a very loud and chaotic environment inside the structure. It is certainly no easy task to plan and execute this

simulation exercise, but there is no better tool than hands on experience to practice the new skills CERT students learn in the course!

City Emergency Managers from both Brighton and Thornton were available to observe the students as well as veteran Thornton Fire and Police Captains. First responders worked with students at the end of the exercise simulating the transfer of command to first response professionals. The exercise was the final part of the course for both classes of students, and a requirement to graduate the class.

City Emergency Managers continue to work with students and graduates to address safety and development of skills and emphasize a culture of continual learning and ongoing professional skill development. Emergency Management, Thornton Fire, Brighton PD students, and victim actors were impressed at the progress these students made and how well they performed their duties as assigned from their own teams Incident Command Center. CERT graduates took charge of the scene, and look forward to working together and with the Cities of Brighton and Thornton in the coming year!

Are you prepared for El Niño?

The City of Brighton is encouraging residents to prepare and continue to be safe during our 2016 El Niño winter, which has been predicted to bring cooler temperatures and more snowfall than most Colorado winters. While many of us routinely winterize our homes in the fall, sometimes we forget our vehicles and winter driving skills need the same attention throughout the season. This includes keeping an emergency kit in your vehicle as well as preparing the vehicle BEFORE it snows.

Some of the items to include in your vehicle's emergency kit include:

- Shovel/windshield scraper/small broom
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Battery powered radio
- Water and snack food
- Matches
- Extra winter clothing
- First aid kit with pocket knife
- Extra medications
- Blanket(s)
- Tow chain or rope
- Road salt and sand (and/or kitty litter or dirt)
- Jumper cables/ flares/distress flag

To keep your vehicle safe before encountering winter weather conditions:

- Check your car's radiator system and have it serviced as needed
- Make sure the antifreeze has the right amount and mixture for winter
- Have proper windshield wiper blades for your vehicle
- Replace your wiper washing fluid with one that is specific for winter driving
- Have your battery tested to avoid a car that won't start in cold weather
- Check your tires for any worn areas and make sure they are inflated to the right pressure
- Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid gas line freeze-up

To find more information on winter preparedness or what to do during a winter emergency go to http://www.brightonco.gov/885/Winter-Weather-Safety .



To stay safe in your vehicle during winter weather conditions:

- Avoid abrupt acceleration, braking and turns
- Know your brakes. The best way to stop is to keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal
- Don't stop if you can avoid it. There's a big difference in the amount of inertia it takes to start moving from a full stop versus how much it takes to get moving while still rolling. Slow down enough to keep rolling until a traffic light changes if you can do it safely
- Don't power up hills. Applying extra gas on snow-covered roads just starts your wheels spinning. Try to get a little inertia going before you reach the hill and let that inertia carry you to the top. As you reach the crest of the hill, reduce your speed and proceed downhill as slowly as possible
- DO NOT tailgate or use cruise control in winter driving conditions
- Always wear your seat belt



See the lineup and buy tickets at brightonarmory.org

RECREATION CENTER NEWS

Big Kids Club

Coming to the Brighton Recreation Center starting Jan. 4

The Brighton Recreation Center will be offering drop-in child care for youth ages 7 to 12. This is a drop-in program for a maximum of 90 minutes, while parents remain at the Brighton Recreation Center. This fee-based program follows the same fee structure as the current childcare offered for younger children, \$1.50 per hour to be paid with a punch card that can be purchased at the Recreation Center front desk.

Time will be measured in 15-minute increments and the punch card is reloadable. Activities offered at the Big Kids Club will include a homework center, games and themed crafts. Supervision will be provided so that parents can relax in their fitness routines knowing their children are being engaged.

The Big Kids Club will be available Monday through Thursday evenings, from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

For questions, please contact Assistant Recreation Coordinator for Youth Programs Cara Curtis at 303-655-2209.



Brighton Recreation Center accepting park shelter reservations starting Jan. 2

The City of Brighton is offering reservations at 14 parks shelters in 2016. Parks accepting reservations include Brighton (four shelters), Benedict (four shelters) including the shelter adjacent to the Splash Pad at the Emi Chikuma Plaza, BJAA, Carmichael, Dewey Strong, Donelson, Farmers and Pheasant Ridge.

Reservations for Brighton, Benedict, and Carmichael parks will be accepted for dates May 14 through Sept. 5, with the remaining shelters available June through August. All shelters include access to restrooms, and most include electricity and a grill (bring your own charcoal). Brighton's park shelters are a great way to get family and friends outside to enjoy Colorado's best season!

The fee to reserve a shelter is \$50 for city residents, and \$60 for nonresidents for all shelters except the Splash Pad shelter, which is \$70 for city residents, and \$90 for nonresidents. There will be one reservation per-shelter, per-day. Reservations must be made two weeks in advance.

Call 303-655-2200 for more information or to book a shelter.

It's never too early to think about summer!

The Brighton Oasis Family Aquatic Park is accepting reservations for its shaded pavilion. The Oasis will be offering birthday party packages available to both 15 and 25 guests. These packages include a two-hour pavilion reservation, admission to the facility, cake, soda, cups, plates, and utensils. For those who would like to reserve the pavilion without a package, it can also be reserved on an hourly basis.

- Fee for 15 guest birthday party package: \$170 + \$50 refundable damage deposit.
- Fee for 25 guest birthday party package: \$230 + \$50 refundable damage deposit.
- Fee for hourly pavilion rental: \$45 + \$50 refundable damage deposit.

The Oasis also offers after-hour rentals for those who are looking to reserve the entire facility. This package includes a two-hour time slot from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for 100 admissions, with any additional admissions costing just \$3 per person.

Fee for after-hour events: \$400 + \$100 refundable damage deposit.



The Oasis will open for the season Saturday, May 28, and will be open for reservation dates starting June 5. Please call 303-655-2200 for more information or to make a reservation. Hurry, weekends sell out fast!







GETFIT CHALLENGE

Resolve to get fit, inspire and train to be the best version of you! This eight-week program will help you make exercise and healthy eating a way of life. Join a small team that meets with a trainer three times a week for eight weeks. This small group training will help you get the results you want with help and support of your team and trainer. All teams will meet for pre and post testing (flexibility, endurance and individual measurements) on Jan. 26 at 6:30 p.m. and March 22 at 6:30 p.m. Prizes will be given to the overall team that has the most amount of change at the end of the eight weeks.

Please see brightonco.gov/Fitness for times and trainer availabilities.

Teams of three to four Cost: \$230 per person

Grow in Brighton

The City of Brighton's Parks and Recreation Department will offer garden plots for rent in 2016. Community garden plots will be available at five locations across Brighton. Gardeners get a sizable plot, access to water from May 1 through the end of September and a key to the lockable gate.

To sign up, please submit an application with payment to the Brighton Recreation Center. Registration dates: Friday, Jan. 22, 2016 at 7 a.m. for Brighton residents and Friday, Feb. 5, 2015 at 7 a.m. for non-residents. No early bird registrations please. Fee: \$20 for Brighton residents and \$30 for non-residents.



Additional information and questions about the Community Gardens can be directed to Lance Vigil at Ivigil@brightonco.gov or 303-655-2230.

Recreation Center Annual Passes on Sale Jan. 2 – Feb. 29

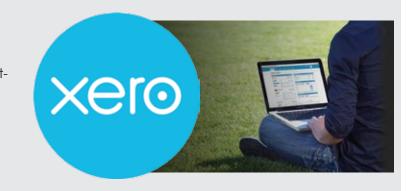
The Brighton Recreation Center is having a sale! Take 20 percent off all annual passes!

This is a great deal on an already great value! Don't miss out, sign up today!

IT'S ALL ABOUT BUSINESS

North Metro Denver SBDC Brighton Satellite Offering New Class

Xero Accounting Software for Small Business has arrived! Need online accounting software or want to switch from your current accounting software to one that is mobile friendly, easy to use and provides 24/7 support online? Find out why small businesses are choosing Xero and learn more about the software's popular features at an introduction presented by the Xero team. The North Metro Denver SBDC - Brighton Satellite will be providing ongoing training on the Xero Accounting Software as a new added class in 2016.



Here are a few features of Xero you will appreciate:

Online accounting

Log in online any time and see up-to-date business financials – from anywhere.

Claim those expenses

Handle personal expenses – just review and approve receipts. Take a photo of receipts from your mobile and it's saved online.

Bank-level security

Industry-leading infrastructure ensures your information is always safe and secure.

Easy invoicing

Create professional recurring invoices and receive updates when they're opened. Enter bills

Manage your cash flow by scheduling payments and batch paying suppliers.

Go mobile

Use Xero's mobile apps to manage your business while you're on the move. Reconcile, send invoices and create expense claims – from anywhere.

Free support around the clock

Friendly and knowledgeable experts are here to help - no matter where you are in the world.

Dashboard

See all your bank balances, invoices, bills and expense claims at a glance and add new transactions with a click. Automatic bank reconciliation Xero imports and categorizes your latest bank transactions. To reconcile, simply click OK.

Pay your employees

With payroll and accounting as one, it's easy to process your payroll and pay superannuation. Your payroll information is automatically updated into the general ledger.

Learn more and check for class dates at http://www.northmetrosbdc.com. For more Information contact Teri Sanchez at tsanchez@brightonedc.org or 303-655-2150.



Brighton Chamber unveils new and improved website

by Holly Hansen, President & CEO

The Brighton Chamber of Commerce website (www.brightonchamber.com) has a new look for the new year. With upgraded navigation and improved content to help visitors and residents alike access information about Brighton and the business community, the new website will provide an easy-to-use format for information seekers, while promoting all that Brighton has to offer.

"Since opening our Community Visitor Information and Resource Center, we've seen an exponential increase in information requests from local residents and visitor community," Brighton Chamber President Holly Hansen said. "While our physical location is full of useful information, we realized that, in our digitally connected age, we needed to improve our online offerings so that anyone can access the information at any time, and from anywhere."

Some new enhancements include a more streamlined business directory, a full menu of local community information, and links to some of the Chamber's most popular programs like the Save Local Now

program, the Annual Duck Race, and much more. The site also features a comprehensive listing of all Chamber and Chamber member events that will allow Chamber members and community members alike to have all the information needed to participate and network with other business owners and community leaders in Brighton. Additionally, many of the areas of the website will feature Spanish-translated pages to further expand communication within the community.

The site was developed in partnership with funding from the City's Lodging Tax grants. "We are grateful for the City's contribution to our new site through the Lodging Tax grants program. The additional financial support allowed us to include the expanded visitor information pages and add Spanish language pages. We are confident that these upgrades will help foster a more connected community while also supporting our local businesses," Hansen said.

The Chamber will continue to operate the local visitors' information center, which is located inside the Historic City Hall building



at 22 S. 4th Ave. "If you've never had a chance to stop in, we would invite you to do so," Hansen said. "Visitors to our welcome center are always pleasantly surprised at the vast offering of information about our local community. Even seasoned residents can find something new and interesting."



Start the New Year by being a better neighbor!

The City of Brighton's Good Neighbor Fund Program provides emergency utility bill payment assistance to individuals and families in Brighton facing a temporary financial crisis. The Good Neighbor activities are funded through voluntary contributions from participating City of Brighton utility customers who choose to be a good neighbor and round-up their bill to the next dollar in order to donate funds to the program.

Every month, being a good neighbor may only cost a few pennies and will never be more than 99 cents.

Being a good neighbor is easy!

To sign up to round-up your bill and be a good neighbor, mark the appropriate box on your utility bill invoice and return it in the mail with your payment or turn it in to the City of Brighton Utility Billing Customer Service Counter. You can also download the Good Neighbor sign-up form at www.brightonco.gov/goodneighborprogram and email it to utilitybilling@brightonco.gov.

How can I get help?

If you or someone you know is facing a temporary financial crisis and would like to receive assistance from the Good Neighbor Fund program, please pick up an application at the Utility Billing Customer Service Counter located on the first floor of Brighton City Hall or fill out the application online at www.brightonco.gov/goodneighborprogram.

For questions about the program, contact 303-655-2009.



SAFETY TIPS FROM THE BRIGHTON FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

Does your family sleep with bedroom doors closed? If your answer is yes, you are protecting your family whether you realize it or not. If your answer is no, why not? Maybe you didn't know the importance of sleeping with a closed door in case of a fire? Did you know that your chances of survival in a fire are greatly increased if you sleep with doors closed?

It should not come as a surprise to most people, that fire safety educators have told citizens for years to sleep with doors closed. Unfortunately, not everyone listens to that advice. The most common reason for not sleeping with doors closed is so parents can hear their kids when they wake, and can be there for their kids if they are needed. A great solution to this is to put a baby monitor in your child's room. It doesn't just have to be for infants. If it truly is a concern that you won't know if your child needs you if doors are closed, you can keep them safe and still be there for them.

Yes, your smoke detectors will increase your chances of getting out if there is a fire. But if the fire progresses quickly, filling the house with smoke, that will make it hard to leave the house. If your bedrooms are higher than the first floor of a house or apartment building, you won't be able to leave through a window. As an educator in our community I always tell kids that if their bedroom door is open when they hear the smoke detectors go off they need to close the door before opening their bedroom window. But what if the protection of a closed door was in place before a fire started?

Sleeping with a closed door is a simple change to make to protect your family. We don't plan to have fires in our homes, but they happen, and they often happen at night while families are sleeping.

In these photos you will see a fire that occurred in an apartment building fire in Maryland. They show a room that reached flashover and a bedroom attached to that room, which had the door shut.

Photos from a fireengineering.com article from 2-19-2015

If you would like more information you can call Brighton Fire Rescue at 303-659-4101 or email Dawn Blunt at dblunt@brightonfire.org.



Photo one shows the living room of an apartment that reached flashover. This space could not support life.



Photo two shows the inside of a bedroom that was connected to the living room but had its door shut for a majority of the fire incident. It is clear in the photo that the smoke and fire damage is almost nonexistent. The door to the bedroom shows breakdown, meaning it was directly affected by high heat conditions. There is a good chance the oxygen and heat levels in this room would have remained in a state to be able to support life until fire crews arrived. Closing all bedroom doors before going to sleep could mean the difference between being rescued and being

There is a good news article about this that just came out from NBC news in Dallas, Fort Worth. To watch it go to http://tinyurl.com/pmkyrce.

So if your answer to the question of whether your family sleeps with closed doors was no, please consider changing it to yes. It could mean the difference of survival in a fire.

BYC's S.P.E.A.K Week April 25-April 30

by Brighton Officec of Youth Services

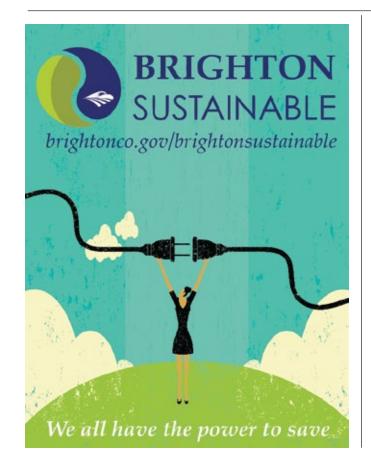
The Brighton Youth Commission is a group of dynamic youth and adults commissioned by the City of Brighton who develop ideas and put concepts into motion that support a more youth and family friendly community. The BYC works both with the city and independently to improve Brighton for all its residents, especially youth; providing young people with the opportunity to be a voice for change in their community and creating an environment beneficial to both personal and leadership development.



Since 2012, the BYC has planned S.P.E.A.K. (Suicide Prevention, Education, Awareness, and Knowledge) Week to promote awareness in the community about the warning signs of suicide and raise awareness of local resources for those who are struggling. In the project's inaugural year, Colorado experienced more suicides than ever before (1,053), and the Brighton community has felt the impact of this statistic personally and profoundly with the 2011 death of Joshua Dillon, a Brighton High School senior.

S.P.E.A.K. Week has experienced tremendous growth and success each year since its inception. We started in two schools, and were in seven in our third year. This year, our 5th year, we are aiming to have participation from nine schools. Testaments from school counselors and the community illuminate the success that we've had. Going into the fourth year, we plan on experiencing even more explosive growth and success with our project.

We plan on hosting a grand event on Saturday, April 30. We would like to cordially invite the community to be a part of this great event. Please stay tuned for more details.



Meet Brighton Animal Control

The City of Brighton's Animal Control employees are responsible for a myriad of duties including: maintaining compliance of our Animal Municipal Codes through education, warnings and enforcement, upkeep of the Shelter, cleaning, feeding, stocking, adoption/placement, euthanasia, records keeping, fee collection and responding to calls for service.

In September 2014, Officers Sanders, Hosker and Howlett investigated the largest cat hoarder case in known Brighton history. More than 70 cats were removed from horrible conditions. The team effort involved in capturing and caring for the large number of cats, as well as maintaining regular AC services for the city was commendable. Each AC Officer received recognition from the city.





Statistics for 2014/2015

- 2,033 Calls for service
- 279 Dogs and Cats returned to owners
- 64 DOA Dogs and Cats 41 other types of DOA Animals
- 219 Dogs and Cats Euthanized
- 303 Dogs, Cats or other animals adopted or transferred for adoption
- 149 Microchips assigned
- 309 Wild Cats
- 63 Citations104 Case Reports

EAGLE VIEW ADULT CENTER NEWS

1150 Prairie Center Parkway 303-655-2075

Eagle View Adult Center is dedicated to the overall social, educational, outreach and wellness needs of seniors and active adults.

Support Groups meeting at Eagle View Adult Center

Dementia Caregivers Support Group - NEW

This evening group is open to all in the community. Meets monthly on the first Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. Call Sue at 303-659-4148 for details.

Seniors With Low Vision

The "Seniors with Low Vision Program" helps adults age 55+ with visual impairments learn to live independently through resources and support. This free drop-in program meets the 4h Monday monthly from 1 - 2 p.m. Call 303-790-1390 for details.

Caregivers Support Group

Support group meets monthly on the second Thursday from 10 - 11:30 a.m. This program is for those who are caring for a loved one at home or at a nursing home. People of all ages are welcome. For details call Tina Wells at 303-813-1669.

Adult Grief Support Group

Do you need support in dealing with the loss of a loved one? Halcyon Hospice and Palliative Care is facilitating a drop-in support group on the second Monday each month from 1 – 2 p.m. Call 720-325-2987 or email deberle@halcyonhospice.org

Spaghetti Luncheon

11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturday, March 7
For the last 27 years, the Eagle View Adult Center has hosted this great community event! Young and old are invited to join. All

proceeds benefit our Senior Games Team. Tickets now on sale! \$7 adults, \$4 children 12 & under

Advanced purchase requested but you can pay at the door.



Random Acts of Kindness Week

Help show the kindness of the Brighton community. Join the Eagle View Adult Center in a week-long celebration of doing kind acts for others. Take time to do a kind act for someone else by donating items to any of our six causes. A list of suggested donation items is available at the front desk. Drop items off at Eagle View ON or BEFORE the date listed. For more details call 303-655-2075.

Monday, Feb. 8

Valentines of Love

Valentines for local nursing home residents

Tuesday, Feb. 9

Project Valentine

Gifts for people having chemotherapy on Valentine's Day

Wednesday, Feb. 10

Toiletries for the Homeless

New toiletry items for people in the area who are homeless

Thursday, Feb. 11

Canned Food Drive

Canned goods for Brighton food banks

Friday, Feb. 12

Help Our Schools

School supplies collected for local school children

Friday, Feb. 12, Noon

VOA Lunch Program

Donate baked goods to sell, or purchase goodies to benefit the VOA Lunch Program

Residents urged to protect in auto theft

Brighton Police have identified a significant increase in motor vehicle thefts occurring in Brighton over the last several months; as part of their efforts to protect citizens against such crimes, they are reminding residents that the best solutions to



the problem is to avoid it in the first place by taking simple common-sense measures to reduce opportunity.

Locking vehicles may not seem important, and many people avoid the habit because "If they really want it, they're going to get it anyway." While this sounds reasonable, the truth is that a small difference like a locked door may be just enough to make the thief look for an easier target. In addition, open vehicles provide opportunities for other crimes like vandalism, theft of belongings from the car, or theft of documents usable in identity theft.

As temperatures drop, it is increasingly tempting to let the car warm-up before entering it, but citizens should not leave vehicles running unattended. Leaving it unattended contributes to air pollution and offers thieves an opportunity to make off with the car, it's also against the law- CRS 42-4-1206 states, in part, that "No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, removing the key from ignition..."

Finally, car owners are encouraged to 'shed some light' on the problem, by parking in easily-observable well-lit areas at night whenever possible, and leaving exterior lights around the home on overnight.



500 South 4th Ave. 303-655-2000 brightonco.gov

How would you make Brighton better with \$500?



Submit your idea.

Win the money.

Build your idea.

Watch Brighton grow, thanks to you.

for contest rules and to submit your idea, visit brightonco.gov/biglittleidea

